VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA January, 2017

THE VVRC WELCOMES YOU

The Vaca Valley Radio Club has proudly served the Northern Solano County Area since 1988. We pride ourselves in providing a friendly place for radio amateurs to meet and improve their operating skills.

We participate in public service events throughout the year and are always ready to assist with communications during times of emergency.

Browse our website for more information about our club. If you have any questions please e-mail us at w6vvr@w6vvr.net or call 707-448-5665 for assistance

The Repeater is Published by the Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625-0143, An ARRL Affiliated Club. Founded 1987, Chartered 1988. General Meetings: 2ndThursday of each month at 7:00 PM See map on last page.

Wheelchair accessible

Visit the Repeater online courtesy of Bob K6HEW at: w6vvr

Club repeater in Vacaville:w6vvr.net 145.470 MHz(-) pl 127.3
The W6VVR net call is Tuesday evenings at 8pm on the club repeater. All are invited to participate in this weekly meeting on the air. 73!

Additional local repeater
WV6F 440.025(+)

2017 Officers

President: Frank Garay KJ6RWQ
VP:Doug Hollowell KJ6VHE
Treasurer: Bob Hewitt-K6HEW
Secretary: Brian Hagen-KK6BXP

Board of Directors:
Ruff Gunn KD6DME
Arthur Miller K6UX
Kevin Stow N6VLF
Bob Hawkins KM6BXZ

APPOINTED POSITIONS
VVRC Net Control Chairperson
Club Activities Chairperson-Frank Garay-KJ6RWQ
Newsletter Editor-Jerry Bowen, KJ6SCC
Newsletter Publishe/ Distributor-Bob Hewitt, K6HEW

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A New Years Ode to Old Pharts

Another year has passed
And we're all a little older
Last summer felt hotter
And winter seems much colder

I rack my brain for happy thoughts
To put down on my pad
But lots of things that come to mind
Just make me kind of sad

There was a time not long ago
When life was a blast
Now I fully understand
About living in the past

We used to go to weddings,
Football games and lunches
Now we go to funeral homes
And after funeral brunches

We used to have hangovers
from parties that were gay
Now we suffer body aches
and while the night away

We used to travel often
To places near and far
Now we get sore bottoms
From riding in the car

We used to go shopping
For new clothing at the Mall
But now we never bother
All the sizes are too small

We used to go to nightclubs
And drink a little booze
Now we stay at home at night
And watch the evening news

That my friend is how life is
And now my tale is told
So enjoy each day and live it up
Before you are too old!

Now I hope this deviation
from a normal newsletter
Doesn't foretell a normal way
of filling up pages is any better

Anyway, I just want to wish
you all a very
HAPPY NEWS YEAR!?!?

Thanks to Skip, AF6HC, who contributes to the newsletter often

President's Message

VVRC is Going Strong!

First let me say thank you to you all for voting me in as the 2017 VVRC President. I'm honored and humbled by it. 2016 was a pivotal year for us at the VVRC. It was a year of rebuilding and restructuring, and our outgoing President, Marcus - KI6WDX, did an excellent job of towing the line and keeping the club on track. Not only did we survive 2016, but we grew and we learned all kinds of great stuff thanks to the wonderful presentations we had which were given by some of our very gifted members. And let's not forget to once again thank member, Tom Christman - KE6MDM, for arranging such a wonderful place for us to meet - The Nut Tree Airport. The new meeting location had a huge impact on being able to give awesome presentations and grow the club with new membership.

I fully intend to keep the ball rolling forward in 2017. We've voted in some great officers and directors to help guide the VVRC ship into new territory. This year we'll of course have our staple events that we've all come to know and enjoy. Field Day, Merriment on Main and Farmers Market, and we'll also be introducing some new events and opportunities to be helpful to our surrounding communities. We're going to be in contact with the Yolo Amateur Radio Society (YARS) with the help of our new Vice President, Doug Hollowell - KJ6VHE and Director Bob Hawkins - KM6BXZ, to offer the services of VVRC for the community events they participate in along with any other help our club can offer. This will open up new opportunities for us to get out there and use our radio skills to support local events which is always fun for everyone.

We are also going to have better structure at our meetings with set timeframes, and we will always leave the last 15 minutes of the meeting for club group discussions and socializing, so we make sure that we know what the desires of the club members are with respect to the direction of the VVRC. We are going to greatly increase our social media presence with the help of our new Social Media Director, Jason Fiori - KM6FAK, and our awareness of what's going on with our neighbor clubs and the ARRL. With all this in mind, email will more than likely be the primary form of communication so please be sure to check it often. What's more is that we'll be making a genuine effort to engage new HAM's in our area, letting them know about our club and how to join. We are also going to make it easier to join the club, and pay our dues by making use of PayPal and a sign up form right on our club website. With all this in mind, Tom may have to find us new place to meet before the end of the year!

Growth, education and above all "FUN" is what I see for our club in 2017. We have all joined this club because we enjoy HAM radio and all it's wonderful facets. Our club needs to be a place of fun, entertainment, education and enjoyment. So, as long as we're having fun, learning, growing and contributing to the community in a positive way, I'd say we're on the right track. That's the track I and your newly elected officers and directors intend to keep us on in 2017.

A Short review in photographs of W6VVR members in year 2016

MERRIEST CHRISTMAS

THE BIT BUCKET

It never hurts to look back in time at some of the early radio installation in our general area. The three photos below were taken in 1904 and 1921 at the Mare Island radio stations.

This was Mare Island's 1st radio station at Mare Island & was long gone by the 20s

The antenna towers at Mare Island in 1921

This photo was taken from the top of one of the antenna towers looking toward the bridge

Update your current *QST* app for the new *PageSuite* version.

If you view the digital edition of *QST* on an Apple smartphone or tablet, ***update*** your current *QST* app. In the App Store app, tap the Updates icon in the menu along the bottom, scroll until you see the *QST* app, and then tap UPDATE. This will overwrite the older app with the new *PageSuite* version.

If you are an Android user, you will also need to update your current *QST* app. For both Apple and Android devices, updating to the new *PageSuite* app will clear your device of all previously downloaded *QST* issues.

Finally, Kindle Fire users will be pleased to learn that there is a now a *QST* app for their device. Search for the *QST* app in the Kindle Fire app store.

Hang on, Someone's at the door.

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

1st week of month-Jerry , KJ6SCC
2nd week of month-Marcus , KI6WDX
3rd week of month-Chris , KD7TQO
4th week of month-Brian , KK6BXP
On months with 5 weeks-Hewitt, K6HEW

A Ghost Story

We don't generally give much credence to ghost stories, but the following appears so intrinsically reasonable in view of the awful doom that doubtless awaits those who ignore its meaningful message that we cannot for a moment doubt its worth. Apparitions do not always wander without sufficient cause is proved by the well-attested fact that we give below.

One night as Thumbelina, a ham operator's wife, sat reading in her bedroom when the clock on the dresser struck twelve and as the last stroke reverberated through the room, the door was flung wide open! In the act of raising her head she saw what at first she thought was an unknown intruder. But no, it was the ghostly figure of her former late husband! She screamed and fell senseless on the floor!

Members of the family who had not already retired rushed to Thumbelina's room. Restoratives were administered, and when she had regained her faculties, and being of strong mind, she felt disposed to consider the whole agony she had undergone was a result of reading too many books about the supernatural.

However, she considered it advisable that she should stay in her room, lest any return of what she considered a nervous affliction should distress her and alarm the family once again.

A few days later, feeling stronger and in better spirits than she had been, Thumbelina retired alone to her bedroom, and went to bed a little before ten o'clock.

Exactly as the clock struck twelve, she was awakened from sleep and distinctly beheld the apparition she had seen before. It advanced from the table until it stood beside the curtains next to her bed. She felt as if her very blood were retreating with icy chillness to her heart from every vein. The apparition of her beloved in life were not it's benevolent aspect: the eyes once beaming with affection were now fixed with stern regard on the trembling, half dissolved being who, with the courage of desperation, implored him, "Jacob! Dear Jacob,! Why have you come again?"

"Thumbelina," slowly and solemnly the shadowy form, waving in his hand a page from the Vaca Valley Radio Club Newsletter, solemnly beseeched, "Thumbelina, please pay my Vaca Valley Radio Club dues, and let me rest in peace!"

OOOkay!. Newsletter's done; trailer & van is ready. Time to head to the desert for a little relaxin' & prospectin

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Please Print & Fill in Completely — July 2016 — Dues are payable annually

FCC Name: _____ Call Sign_____
Name Badge Name:_____
Street: _____
City: _____Zip: _____
Phone: (_____) _____-_____OK to Publish ?(_____)
License Class: _____ ARRL Memeber ?(_____)
E-Mail Address_____
FAMILY Member (Spouse or Children)
Name: _____ Call Sign_____
License Class: _____ARRL Memeber ?(_____)
Name: _____ Call Sign_____
License Class: _____ARRL Memeber ?(_____)
Name: _____ Call Sign_____
License Class: _____ARRL Memeber ?(_____)

MEMBER Dues --------- $25.00 _____
Each Family Member -- $ 2.00 _____
Student ---------- $ 5.00 _____
Repeater donation ---------- _____

Total---------- _____
Paid by CASH: ____ Check #_____
DATE:_____

Mail to : Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625-0143